

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 02370 180900Z

ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-07 H-01 L-03 INR-07 SS-15 SP-02

OES-06 /050 W

-----180917 091469 /12

P 180834Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5575

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 2370

STADIS//////////

PLEASE PASS USDA FOR HUME ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, EPAP, JA

SUBJECT: CITRUS FUNGICIDES

1. FOREIGN MINISTRY NO AM DIV DIRECTOR FUKUDA RAISED STATUS FUNGICIDE ISSUE WITH ECON COUNS ON FEBRUARY 18. FUKUDA SAID THAT HE IS CONVINCED THAT FLORIDA CITRUS INTERESTS AND/OR THEIR JAPANESE COUNTERPARTS ARE WORKING TO DELAY APPROVAL OF OPP. HE SAID A JAPANESE BUSINESSMAN NAMED FUJII, WHO IS ONE OF SEVERAL JAPANESE ASSOCIATED WITH SEALD SWEET, ARE URGING THAT NO ACTION BE TAKEN ON OPP UNTIL TBZ IS ALSO READY FOR APPROVAL.

2. WE TOLD FUKUDA WE HAD TO BE VERY SUSPICIOUS OF SUCH ASSERTIONS AND AFFIRMED THAT THE USG REQUEST IS FOR PROMPT, FAVORABLE ACTION ON OPP, WITH QUESTIONS OF TBZ TO FOLLOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. FUKUDA SAID HE UNDERSTOOD OUR SUSPICION, AND OUR POSITION ON OPP BUT HAD STRONG EVIDENCE THAT IMPORTERS OF FLORIDA CITRUS ARE URGING DELAY AND THEIR POSITION IS BEING RECEIVED SYMPATHETICALLY BY HEALTH AND WELFARE MINISTRY. FUKUDA THEN PRODUCED A XEROX COPY OF A LETTER OF JANUARY 17 FROM SENATOR RICHARD (DICK)
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STONE OF FLORIDA TO THEN VICE PRESIDENT-ELECT MONDALE. THE LETTER CERTAINLY LOOKED GENUINE. ITS SECOND PARAGRAPH WAS A REQUEST FOR MONDALE TO ASK THE JAPANESE TO APPROVE SOPP REPEAT SOPP AND TBZ. IT SAID TESTING OF SOPP IS COMPLETE AND THAT TBZ TESTING WOULD BE FINISHED IN FEBRUARY. SOPP IS AN ENTIRELY DIFFERENT FUNGICIDE NOT NOW BEING TESTED AND NOT

UNDER CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL. WE ASKED IF OPPONENTS
OF FUNGICIDES IN JAPAN HAD COPIES OF THE STONE LETTER,
AND FUKUDA SAID HE DID NOT THINK SO. WE ASKED
IF THE LETTER HAD BEEN PROVIDED BY A MEMBER OF VICE PRES-
IDENT MONDALE'S PARTY DURING HIS VISIT AND FUKUDA SAID
NO, BUT DECLINED TO REVEAL HIS SOURCE.

3. COMMENT: WHEREVER THESE PRESSURES FOR APPROVAL FOR
SOPP AND TBZ ARE COMING FROM, THEY ARE MUDDYING THE
WATERS IN TOKYO. WE WILL CONTINUE TO URGE QUICK
ACTION ON OPP. MENTION OF SOPP IN ANY CONNECTION DOES
NOT HELP OUR CASE.
SHOESMITH

NOTE BY OC/T: PASSED AGRICULTURE.

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CITRUS FRUITS, FUNGICIDES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Subject: CITRUS FUNGICIDES
TAGS: ETRD, EPAP, JA, US
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Type: TE
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